

Short Notes.

HABITS OF THE DRONGO.

It may often be noted that the common racket tailed Drongo, *Dissemurnus platyurus*, has a habit of accompanying the common monkeys known as the K'ra (*Macacus cynomolgus*) as they wander along among the branches of the trees; so conspicuous indeed is this that the Malays sometimes call the bird Hamba Kerah; the slave of the monkey. Why the birds did so puzzled me for some time till I noticed that the monkeys as they go through the foliage disturb many insects such as the grasshoppers, moths and mantises. The drongo which always takes its food on the wing waits in a more or less open space generally behind the advancing monkey and catches the insects as they fly so that it is the monkey who is serving the drongo by driving its prey for it rather than the drongo who is the slave of the monkey.

THE SHORT-EARED OWL IN SINGAPORE.

A fine specimen of the short-eared owl (*Asio accipitrinus* Pall.) was captured in December last in the Alexandra Road, in Singapore, by a native who brought it to the Gardens where it is still alive. This owl has a very wide distribution, occurring in Europe including England, Siberia, China, India and Ceylon, but has never apparently been previously obtained in the Malay Peninsula. The bird was identified by Mr. A. L. Butler.

THE SUMATRAN RHINOCEROS.

It is well known that two species of Rhinoceros occur in the Malay Peninsula, the Javanese one-horned species *R. javanicus* and the two horned *R. sumatrensis*, but though many of these animals have been recorded as having been trapped or shot in various parts of the Native States, there are no records as to where the different species have been obtained and it is very seldom that any portions of the specimens have been preserved. Lately, however, two examples of *R. sumatrensis* have been on